

## News briefs

### No Eifel Times

Because of a German holiday Thursday, there will be no Eifel Times May 10. Submission deadline for the May 17 issue is Wednesday.

### Early school withdrawal

The Department of Defense Dependent Schools recognizes some families will PCS before completing the full school year.

Students who need to accelerate their schooling to accommodate PCS must attend at least through May 15 and apply for early withdrawal to receive full credit for the semester.

Once the school receives PCS orders, students will be given acceleration paperwork to take to teachers requesting all assignments. Students who withdraw before May 15 will receive a "withdraw" grade.

### CCAF graduation

The Community College of the Air Force Spring 2002 graduation ceremony takes place May 15 at 2 p.m. in the Spang Club.

Dress is uniform of the day for military and business casual for civilians.

The base education center closes at 11:30 a.m. the same day to prepare for the ceremony.

For more information, call the education center at 452-6063.

### AFSA meeting

The local Air Force Sergeant's Association chapter holds its monthly membership meeting May 16 at 11:30 a.m. in the Spang Club.

All members and those interested in joining AFSA are invited. Light snacks will be served, starting at 11:15 a.m.

For more information about the meeting or joining AFSA, call Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Bingman at 452-6703.

### Memorial Day ceremony

The base Memorial Day ceremony takes place May 24 at 2 p.m. at the Airman's Memorial by the main gate.

The dress is uniform of the day and business casual for civilians.

In case of inclement weather, the alternate location for the ceremony is the Spangdahlem Air Base Chapel.

People interested in singing the national anthem or taking part in the military formation should call 2nd Lt. Margaret Van Curler at 452-6209.

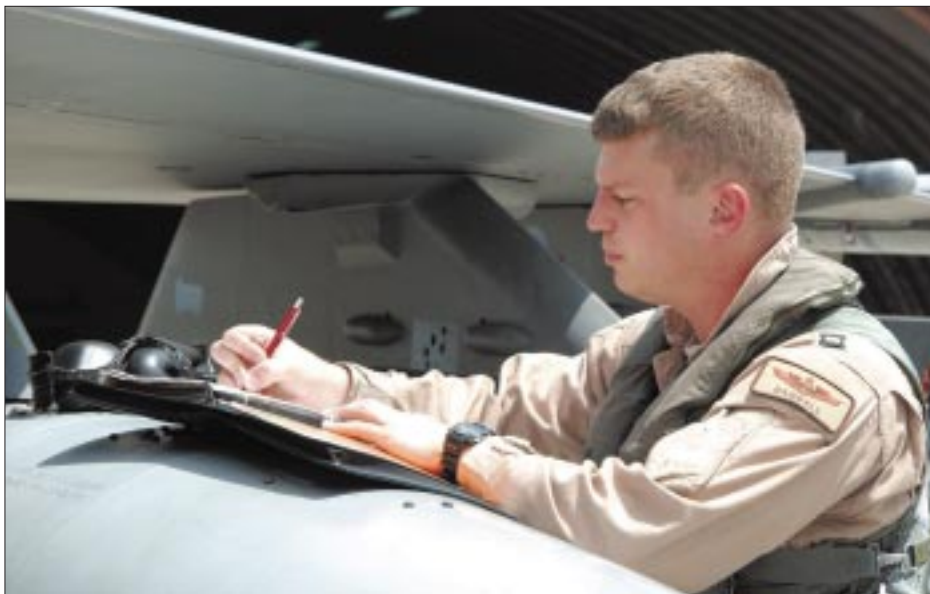
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# Eifel Times

Vol. 36, Issue 16

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

May 3, 2002



**Capt. John Wilson, 23rd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron F-16CJ pilot, signs post-flight forms after flying an Anatolian Eagle mission from Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, April 26. The Fighting Hawks were already in Turkey for an air expeditionary deployment.**

Tech. Sgt. Cecil Daw

## 23rd EFS participates in Anatolian Eagle

By Tech. Sgt. Bob Blausier  
Operation Northern Watch Combined Information Bureau

**INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey** - As if flying suppression of enemy air defense missions every day over Northern Iraq wasn't enough to keep them busy, the 23rd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron has found something else to occupy their time while deployed to Operation Northern Watch.

The 23rd EFS "Fighting Hawks" from Spangdahlem Air Base are participating in Anatolian Eagle, a two-week long, large-force employment exercise carried out near the central Anatolian city of Konya, Turkey.

The exercise, which is scheduled to end today, includes combat maneuvers over the plains of Anatolia and ground-attack sorties with live ammunition on the Konya range, and it's based on the principles of the well-known Red Flag exercises, held at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

Participating in the exercise are U.S. Air Force F-16CJs, a NATO E-3 Sentry, and Turkish Air Force F-16Cs, F-4s and F-5s.

"It's nice to come here and see some different platforms out there, and fight and train with them," said Capt. John Wilson, 23rd EFS F-16CJ pilot and Anatolian Eagle project officer. "We don't typically get this kind of dissimilar air-to-air training. For

us to go out and utilize those tactics versus a very robust air threat helps us improve our air-to-air skills."

The 23rd EFS pilots get the chance to practice other facets during the exercise, Wilson added.

"The exercise allows us to do what we're supposed to do as an F-16CJ: air-to-air, air-to-ground and SEAD," Wilson said. "It tasks all those capabilities and that helps us get better in all the regimes because we get to practice it all at once."

The training the pilots receive during Anatolian Eagle is even more critical because increased operations tempo and geographic location prevent some units from participating in similar exercises throughout the year.

"It's not logistically or fiscally possible for a lot of the people around this area to go to Red Flag every year," Wilson said. "It's just easier to move in the European area than it is to go all the way across the (Atlantic Ocean)."

Also, unlike the more restrictive airspace the pilots are accustomed to at Spangdahlem AB, Anatolian Eagle gives them a chance to stretch their wings.

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## DODDS to consider fate of European school board program

By Capt. Dani Johnson  
U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany** - U.S. Air Forces in Europe's two-year school board pilot program, which has provided the opportunity for faculty, parents and community leaders to work together to address some tough issues, comes to an end when the spring 2002 semester finishes.

The idea to increase parental involvement

through school boards was endorsed during the Fall 1999 Component Commander's Conference. A request for a waiver needed to implement the two-year test was approved by assistant secretary of defense force management policy.

"The waiver was approved, policy guidelines were written, and school board members were elected in a span of 30 days," said Wayne Boswell, USAFE Department of

Defense Dependent Schools liaison. "High parent interest and support allowed us to implement school boards quickly."

With the school board test period almost over, analysis of the USAFE initiative will begin. This analysis, conducted by both USAFE and Independent Defense Analysis, Inc., will provide U.S. European Command, USAFE and Department of Defense Education Activity leaders with solid data to

decide if school boards will become permanent for USAFE.

USAFE will conduct its analysis based on wing commander and school board reports and input. The contracted IDA analysis began March 4 when an IDA representative visited USAFE bases to interview parents, visit with school boards,

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## Up and away

Col. Greg Ihde, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, helps Department of Defense Dependents Schools kindergarten teacher Sara Hamilton into an F-16 prior to her incentive flight April 26. Hamilton was randomly selected for the flight from among her peers to help DODDS personnel gain a greater insight into their impact on the wing's mission and personnel.



Staff Sgt. Kimberly Drake

## DODDS

Continued from Page 1

and receive feedback from DODDS-Europe administrators and military leaders.

Although the program is scheduled to end with the current school year, Boswell said USAFE will request a waiver for an additional transition year.

"Our parents and school administrators need that transition time to either make school boards permanent or to prepare for returning to installation advisory committees," he added. "The pilot program provides a different structure from that of installation advisory committees. School boards allow parents to be more active in the school system."

"Our goal was for school boards to strengthen the voice of the community in the districts and serve as a conduit between parents, installation commanders and DODDS," said Lt. Gen. Glen W. Moorhead, USAFE vice commander. "Research has shown that parental involvement in schools positively affects student achievement; school boards allow parents to play an active role in their children's education."

Boswell said school boards have successfully tackled the "tough" issues during the past two years. "The school boards have worked some tough issues including school bus discipline, facility security and even military construction priorities while establishing better relationships between military leaders, school staffs and parents."

Through school board meetings, communities have made major strides in improving quality of life for students.

The school board at Aviano Air Base, Italy, focused on the need for an adolescent substance abuse counselor for its schools. Concerned parents brought the issue to the

school board where community leaders and school administrators discussed the issue and received input from the parents.

"Community representatives, wing leaders and school administrators were able to discuss the issue, provide feedback to the concerned parents and move the issue forward for action in one meeting. That is the strength of the school board system," said Boswell.

Another example of a school board's affect on quality of life occurred at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, where the need for base volunteer "mentors" was addressed at a school board meeting. Within months after the meeting, a program was initiated to train base volunteers to mentor academically challenged students.

"Throughout the command, there are many outstanding examples highlighting the advantages of school boards," said Boswell. "It is amazing to see how much can be accomplished when interested parties sit together and openly, together, discuss issues and seek solutions."

The pilot program will be evaluated in June, and the findings will be published in a Dependents Education Council report. The report will determine the overall success or failure of the program and make recommendations on whether to continue or disband school boards. Installation advisory committees will return to USAFE schools if the boards are not retained.

"School boards have definitely added to the quality of life for our communities and our people," said Moorhead. "There's no doubt that the pilot program made substantial strides toward improving the educational environment for our children. I appreciate the hard work that's going on right now as we enter the evaluation phase and look forward to reviewing the findings in the final report."

## School board looks forward to new year

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Despite uncertainty as Department of Defense Dependents Schools considers the fate of the school board, Eifel School Board members look forward to the upcoming school year by accepting nominations for new board members.

"To do otherwise would be irresponsible on our part," said Master Sgt. Terry White, ESB vice president. "Ultimately, if the school board is discontinued, there will most likely be one to two years of transition period where the school board will still be needed until the installation advisory committee can be re-established."

Should DODDS officials nix the school board program, Eifel region schools would reinstate its former advisory committee program.

The goal of the two-year school board experiment was to test the concept as an alternate means of addressing concerns about children's education.

"The old IAC was comprised of teachers, parents, school administrators and wing organizations. The school board is comprised solely of parents," White explained. "This gives the school board a different perspective and separates it from command and school district organizational constraints. If the Eifel School Board were disbanded, the wing would reestablish the IAC and we would continue doing business, just in a different way."

### Accomplishments

Within the two-year test, ESB members made strides in addressing parent's concerns, including school staffing and information access, White said.

The ESB's efforts to achieve needs- or program-based staffing for local schools was partially realized when the Defense Department authorized 200 additional manpower authorizations for Department of Defense Education Activity which weren't based on school enrollment.

"Although this falls far short of the complete needs/programs based staffing goal, it is still a significant step toward that accomplishment and it illustrates that DOD leadership is hearing and acting on our concerns," he said.

Also, the school board expanded its Web page to include both the .mil and public domains.

Additionally, within less than two full school years, according to White, ESB members feel proud of the working relationship they've established with parents, teachers, school administration and wing leadership.

"The school board can and does have a lasting and positive effect on the quality and effectiveness of education in the Eifel community," he said. "One of our concerns for the ESB is the apparent low participation by community parents that can be perceived as a negative. However, it can also, and more likely does, indicate there are few concerns, which aren't already being addressed at some level."

"The local military community is amazingly attuned to the needs and desires of our military families. We believe that this apparent lack of participation indicates a general feeling of satisfaction and contentment in our community. This success is not specific to the school board, but is the result of hard work by everyone in the community from the wing commander down to the newest assigned airman who volunteers to read to the third graders."

### Other options

Other venues parents can tap into to influence the school system and the quality of education include school advisory committees and parent, teacher, student associations, said White.

The SAC is an advisory group comprised of parents, teachers and school administrators whose charter is to advise the principal of the school and the district superintendent on matters specific to that school.

"They have a great deal of influence on matters of funding, staffing, curriculum and more," he said. "The SAC is a wonderful avenue to get things done in your child's school."

Additionally, each school sponsors a PTSA. Although they don't specifically advise the district superintendent or school principals, these organizations can bring issues to the SAC where they can be elevated for resolution.

Also, according to White, if the school board program is discontinued, the wing would establish an IAC to replace the ESB as an additional venue for parents to address concerns.

## Briefs

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### Summer hire

Applications are currently being accepted for the summer hire program through May 16. Late applications will still be accepted, but students who apply by the closing date will be placed first.

This year's program will run from June 24 through Aug. 2. All students will be employed on a full-time basis during the six-week period.

Eligible students must meet the following requirements: be a U.S. citizen, be 14 years old by the start date of the program, have a valid social security number, have a valid ID card, have a U.S. passport with a SOFA stamp, be on their sponsor's orders, have a GPA of 2.0 or higher, have parent's written consent to work (if under 18), and reside with their sponsor in the commuting area.

For more information, visit the civilian personnel office in building 151 or call 452-6080.

### BASH meeting

A meeting for the Big Annual Summer Happening, also known as the BASH, is May 15 at 10 a.m. in the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center. Private organizations or units planning on participating should send a representative to the meeting. For more information, call George Price or Tami Schneider at 452-6073.

### Medical group training

The 52nd Medical Group closes June 6 for medical readiness training. Services normally offered on family days, holidays and weekends will still be available. For urgent care, the Bitburg Annex Emergency Room is open.

### Anthony's Pizza

Anthony's Pizza on Spangdahlem Air Base changes its hours of operation for a 30-day trial. New hours are:

Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### Community Bank hours

Because of holidays, the Spangdahlem Air Base and Bitburg Annex Community Banks will be closed Thursday and May 20 and May 30.

### Thrift shop hours

The new hours for the Penny Lane Thrift Shop

for May and June are:

Tuesday and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and the first and third Wednesday of the month, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### Natural conservation

Based on the German Nature Protection law, all indigenous birds species are protected. Hunting, removing nests and disturbing breeding birds are prohibited.

Tree cutting or shrub removal on Spangdahlem Air Base properties are also prohibited during the bird breeding protection period, which runs from April 1 through Sept. 30.

Trimming trees and shrubs during this time should be limited to a mission-essential need only around base facilities. If trimming is necessary to meet safety requirements, prevent damage to infrastructure or private property, or to execute construction and repair projects, validation of the vegetation for breeding birds is required.

If birds have a nest in the area, no action is allowed until the baby birds fly out of the nest. Trimming also causes a breeding impact by damaging the natural nest camouflage so enemies can find the nest and damage, destroy or eat the eggs or baby birds. Removal of a nest is completely prohibited.

For more information, call the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron environmental flight at 452-7257.

### School board volunteers

Bitburg Elementary School officials are looking for someone willing to serve on the Eifel School Board for a two-year term. People interested in running for the position should call the school office at 452-9215.

### Local American Legion

The Post 20 American Legion has re-opened in Speicher at the Zum Flockenberg.

People can enjoy a variety of activities, including darts. The kitchen will open soon.

People can do volunteer work with local orphans and base functions.

The American Legion is open Tuesday through Thursday from 4-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. and Sunday 4-10 p.m.

For more information, call Larry Barnwell at 0172-6416122, Gene Lee at 452-5654 or Mike Gormiller at 0160-92592427.



Tech. Sgt. Cecil Daw

Airmen 1st Class Nick Miller (left) and Brett Antisdell (right), 23rd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, load 25-pound practice bombs onto an F-16CJ April 26. The 23rd EFS is participating in Anatolian Eagle while at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey.

## 23rd EFS

Continued from Page 1

"We're very limited at Spangdahlem with our altitudes, and we have a very, very small working area from day to day," Wilson said. "The only other place we would get this kind of setup is at Red Flag."

The first Anatolian Eagle exercise took place in June 2001, and, coincidentally, the 23rd EFS' sister squadron, the 22nd FS, participated in it. The 23rd EFS replaced the 22nd EFS at Operation Northern Watch in March and is scheduled to provide SEAD support for ONW through July.

Future Anatolian Eagle exercises are planned for June and September and are scheduled to include air forces from Turkey, the United States and Israel.

"Another big part is the multinational aspect of it," Wilson said. "We're going to be here for a while. It's important for us to foster our relationship with Turkey and support the exercise. The great training we get out of it is just an added benefit."

## Accidents

By John Keeler

52nd Security Forces Squadron Reports and Analysis

Twenty-three Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, four of which were major.

The first major accident was in the parking lot of Bitburg High school. It happened when a family member backed out of a parking spot and was rear-ended. The family member complained of whiplash. The other driver wasn't injured. The family member's vehicle had damage to the left rear bumper, quarter panel and left rear signal assembly. The other vehicle had a dented hood and bumper.

The second major accident was on L-46, between the B-50 turnoff and Herforst. An airman lost control of his vehicle while going around a curve, crossed the road and hit a tree. He was taken to the Bitburg Annex Emergency Room for observation.

The third major accident apparently happened in the early morning in Idesheim. A family member walking her dog found a U.S. Army Europe-plated vehicle in a creek on its roof, and called the 52nd Security Forces Squadron. When security forces arrived on scene, they joined Bitburg Polizei to investigate. After finding the owner of the car, the Polizei performed field sobriety and blood alcohol tests. The airman now faces

charges for drunken or reckless operation of a vehicle and fleeing the scene. The investigation is still pending.

The fourth major accident happened in Frankfurt. An airman's vehicle was broad sided as he crossed an intersection. There were no injuries. The airman's vehicle had major dents in the left side and a broken front axle.

The 19 minor accidents involved:

- One from backing.
- 15 from inattentive driving.
- One parking lot related.
- One speed too fast for conditions.

■ One fleeing the scene.

In addition, 31 citations were issued.

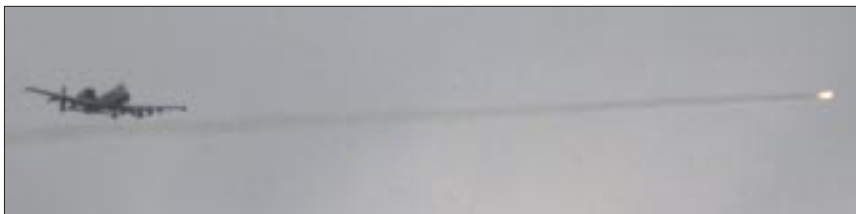
### Keep in mind

A major accident on B-50 killed a Spangdahlem Air Base employee April 16. B-50 is commonly identified as "one of the most dangerous roads in Germany."

For whatever reason, many people who commute this road may not take the time to consider those who have lost lives attempting to reach their destination.

The statistics prove that most accidents are caused by driver impatience and speed. Take time to heed the warnings of others because if you don't, it may be too late.





An A-10 fires a target practice rocket on Kunchyna Range B.



Airmen 1st Class Michael Abernathy (left) and Timothy Pope, 81st Fighter Squadron crew chiefs, document maintenance forms before the next flight.



Senior Airman Daniel Brown, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron crash recovery, samples oil on an A-10 following the first of three scheduled six-ship training missions.



Senior Airman Ryan Rustong, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron conventional munitions maintenance crew member, assembles BDU-33 practice bombs.

# HOG WILD: Only A-10 unit in Europe uses Slovak range to hone pilots' skills at employing weapons

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Rich Romero  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

More than 200 people from the 81st Fighter Squadron and support units on Spangdahlem Air Base returned this past week from a two-week weapons training deployment to Slovakia.

It took a mere 10 days of flying at 2nd Air Force Base Kunchyna, Slovakia, for the squadron to complete pilot proficiency and upgrade training that could take months to conduct elsewhere in Europe, according to Maj. Paul Lancaster, unit pilot and deployment project officer.

Poor weather, limited airspace, range restrictions and scheduling problems sometimes prevent the 81st FS from completing pilot upgrades in the planned period of time, Lancaster explained. The range and airspace in Slovakia; however, is seemingly tailored to A-10 pilot training.

"In Slovakia, we're able to go to a range only five miles from the base that has numerous targets, an accurate scoring system for strafe and bombs, and usually better weather than is normal in the Spangdahlem area," he said. "Additionally, the Slovaks and U.S. Air Forces in Europe officials have improved the range since our last visit (in July 2000), by including an acoustic scoring system that tracks the number of rounds impacting the target and provides a printout showing where each round impacted, allowing the pilot to analyze and improve his strafe techniques."

Other improvements include a camera scoring system that allows pilots to tell ground forward air controllers what target will be bombed, and then scores the bomb accurate

to 1/10th of a meter. Using live weapons, such as 500-pound Mk-82 bombs, on future deployments is also being explored.

All of this led to five new flight lead pilots for the squadron, both two- and four-ship, a few instructor pilot upgrade sorties and some forward air controller upgrades. In addition, the squadron nearly met 100 percent of its 138-sortie goal on the deployment, only missing by one. More than 18,000 rounds of 30 mm ammunition and 700 BDU-33s, and about 130 target practice rockets were fired and dropped.

While weapons training deployments target pilot proficiency and upgrade, flightline and support people benefit as well.

"Deploying provides mid- and upper-level supervisors the opportunity to set up, prepare and operate in bare-base conditions similar to those we may experience in a combat environment," said Capt. Louis Marnell, 81st FS maintenance officer. "It also affords support, backshop and crew chiefs a better understanding and appreciation for what each other does daily since they have to work more closely together as a team to be successful; they're all each other has."

For Airman 1st Class Chris Charvella, a crew chief on his first temporary-duty assignment, the WTD was an eye-opener.

"I didn't know what to expect," he said. "We certainly worked harder here, with less people and fewer parts."

"I also didn't know we would fly as much as we did."

We flew more here in 10 days than we did in 93 days in Turkey, it seems. The operations tempo really surprised me, but it helped me learn how to work better together as a team."

The deployment also gave the electronic warfare shop, otherwise known as specs, an opportunity to break out a new piece of test equipment. The Common Aircraft Portable Reprogramming Equipment looks like an ordinary laptop computer, but looks can be deceiving.

CAPRE replaces four other pieces of test equipment specs typically deploys with, said Staff Sgt. Kenton Morin, 81st FS electronic warfare shop. While not fully online yet, because the manufacturer is still sending out necessary parts, specs has been able to discover some of its capabilities, which can't be discussed, according to Morin.

"This will significantly decrease the amount of equipment we need to take on deployments while increasing our efficiency and speeding the testing process," he said.

While there were improvements made between this past WTD and the first trip the 81st FS took to Slovakia, Lt. Col. Mark Koechle, unit commander, said one thing that hadn't changed was the cooperation of the host nation.

"The Slovaks really bend over backward to support us," he said. "The Slovak commander (Col. Juraj Baranek) and I have talked often about when we started flying, we were training to face off as enemies. Now, we're partners, and that's the way it should be."

Senior Squadron landing



Above, ladder door art on one of the 81st Fighter Squadron's A-10s depicts the World Trade Center towers in New York City, the Statue of Liberty and the American flag and reads, "With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility." Left, an 81st FS pilot taxis an A-10 down the 2nd Air Force Base Kunchyna flightline.



Airman Troy Schmidt, 81st Fighter Squadron crew chief, changes an A-10 main gear tire between flights.



Left, Senior Airman Jeannette Johnson, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment journeyman, connects an AGE piece to a bobtail before taking it to a crew chief working on an A-10. Below, Lt. Col. Mark Koechle, 81st Fighter Squadron commander, pulls safety pins off a BDU station during his preflight inspection.





## Pet show

The Spangdahlem Air Base main exchange sponsors a pet show Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Events include security forces canine unit demonstrations and a pet club showing. Pet owners are invited to attend and enter pets in various contests.

## La Leche league

Breastfeeding mothers meet May 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Annex hospital conference room. Mothers interested in or currently breastfeeding are encouraged to attend. Children are welcome. Call Margaret Loffelman at 06565-7555.

## Shop in Poland

A shopping trip in Poland takes place May 17. Cost is \$95 per double seat. Call 06575-903244 for tickets or information.

## Chapel news

■ A women's fellowship Catholic Mass takes place at 9:15 a.m. each Tuesday. Children are welcome to attend.

■ A first Holy Communion Mass takes place Saturday at 5 p.m. at the Spangdahlem Air Base Chapel.

■ Catholic Women of the Chapel sponsor a garage sale May 11 from 6-11 a.m. on the Binsfeld government-leased housing basketball court. To donate items, call Linda Hall 06565-958753 or Leslie Marsh at 06575-903463.

■ Catholic confirmation with Bishop John Madera, Archdiocese for Military Service, Washington, D.C., takes place May 14 at 7 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB Chapel.

■ Catholic vacation Bible school takes place June 24-28. Registration takes place in May. Call the Spangdahlem AB Chapel office at 452-6711 for more information.

## Adoption symposium

The European adoption symposium takes place May 11 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Faith Baptist Church on Lichtenbrucherstrasse 17, Einsiedlerhof, Kaiserslautern. Subjects include adoption procedure preparations, adoptive parent roles, legal information and other issues.



Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey

## Creative guidance

Ann Sherwood, Spangdahlem Elementary School art teacher, helps D'Andre McCoy, cut out his Aztec design. Sherwood has taught in Defense Department schools for 24 years. Col. Greg Ihde, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, proclaimed Sunday through May 11, Teacher Appreciation Week in each of the local Department of Defense Dependents Schools. He urges all military and civilian citizens to pay tribute to public school teachers this week.

Register to attend by contacting the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center at DSN 486-7298 or e-mailing [veithjjj@bunt.com](mailto:veithjjj@bunt.com).

## Cancer support group

A three-part informational series on the physical, psychological and spiritual aspects of cancer and treatments takes place May 14 from 6-8 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air

Base Chapel. Call Capt. Michelle Ambrose at 452-8238 for details.

## Travel guide

Panther Paws 2001-2002, a travel guide authored and sponsored by the 81st Fighter Squadron spouses, is now available at local exchange stores for \$10.

## Life skills news

■ The art of relationships seminar takes place May 14 in Bitburg Annex building 67. Call Michele Linnen at 452-8435 for details.

■ Passport to parenthood seminar takes place Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■ Dealing with challenging children seminar takes place May 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Spangdahlem AB building 161. Call 452-8238 for details.

## Family support center news

The following take place in Spangdahlem Air Base building 307. Call 452-6422 to register or for details.

■ Resume writing, Wednesday from 5-7 p.m.

■ Basic investing, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

■ Pre-separation briefing, May 13 and 20 from 9-10:30 a.m.

■ Pre-deployment briefing, May 14 and 21 from 8-9 a.m.

■ Sponsor training, May 16 from 3-4:30 p.m.

The following take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001. Call 452-9491 to register or for more information.

■ Pre-deployment briefing, Wednesday and May 15 from 8-9 a.m.

■ Sign language club, Thursday, and May 16 and 23 from 6-8 p.m.

■ Hugs from home for Bitburg Elementary School, Thursday from 2:50-3:30 p.m.

■ Resume writing, May 14 from 8-11 a.m.

■ Home buying, May 14 from 6-8 p.m.

■ Great expectations for new dads, May 15 from 6-8 p.m.

■ Hugs from home for Spangdahlem Elementary School, May 21 from 2:30-3:15 p.m.

## English classes

English as a second language starts Tuesday from 5:30-7 p.m. Classes take place each Tuesday and Thursday through June 27 in Spangdahlem Air Base building 139. Call 452-9491 for details.



# Editorial Staff

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Capt. Angela Johnson.....Chief, Public Affairs  
Tech. Sgt. Rich Romero.....Internal Information  
Staff Sgt. Cindy York.....Editor

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Col. Greg Ihde

## Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the Eifel Times and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

- DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil
- Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126
- To public affairs in building 23.
- Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.

## Number of days since last DUI:

As of Thursday

4

You have a choice.  
Call Airmen Against  
Drunk Driving  
at 452-2233.

# Viewpoint

May 3, 2002

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## Providing cover

## Every airman should fill combat wingman's role

By Lt. Col. Mark Koechle  
81st Fighter Squadron commander

Panther flight, an A-10 flight, is tasked to find and destroy a vehicle staging area with a refueling operation in progress. The targets are tanks, armored personnel carriers and soft-skinned vehicles (trucks). The target area threats are surface-to-air missile sites, shoulder-held SAMs, and anti-aircraft artillery ...

A small group of Air Force members prepares to go out for the evening for some dancing, drinking and fun at a local nightclub. While these two situations do not initially appear to have anything in common, both are executed using similar tactics, and both can quickly become high-threat environments and are potentially deadly.

These missions begin with planning. The "Hogs" get their target information from "Intel," target area conditions from weather, aircraft status and configuration from maintenance, and permission to fly the mission from the Air Operations Center ...

The airmen start by calling friends, deciding where to go, at what time, how they'll get there, and HOPEFULLY, who's the designated driver.

After takeoff, Panther contacts a variety of enroute agencies to gather information and prepare for battle. Airborne Warning And Control System provides the air picture for enemy fighters and checks identification codes used by friendly fighters. AWACS also provides directions to available tankers for air refueling. Airborne Command and Control Center or the Control Reporting Center provides updated target area information from the most recent flights working in that area. Ground Forward Air Control provides very specific target information, like numbers and types of vehicles and their precise location ...

The airmen begin their night by driving to a particular location. They may hear from other friends along the way that it's "dead," but another

club is packed, so they change their ingress route. They may stop for a bite to eat, since they may not get a chance to "refuel" later. Once they get to their destination, they receive specific "target" information from other friends who have been there awhile ("There's a table of cute girls/guys over there," or "This is a great drink, you have to try it.")

The A-10 pilots have flown many training missions together and have developed standard target area "contracts." One such contract is for the wingman to provide "cover" for the lead as he attacks the target, meaning he will watch for any threats that could shoot them down. There are also many other aircraft in the vicinity to support the attack, such as F-15Cs to engage enemy fighters, Stinger or Hawk F-16CJ flights to suppress or kill enemy SAMs, and EA-6s to provide jamming against enemy radars. The A-10s engage the target and successfully destroy the staging area ...

The airmen have a great time dancing and partying at the club. They may or may not successfully engage their "targets," depending on their overall objectives. The alcohol also flows very freely, and some over estimate the amount they can drink. "Target area" support assets include sober friends, Ride for Life, Airmen Against Drunk Driving and taxis. What happens next depends on what "contracts" were set before the evening began.

Target area egress is one of the most critical parts of the mission. The A-10s need to keep their guard up and rely on all the other assets to get them home safely ...

The airmen quite often split up throughout the evening (never a good idea in a high-threat environment), and "contracts" break down. Personal decisions on how to get home and with whom may have lifelong consequences. Should one of the group make the decision to drive while intoxicated, the "egress" threats now become very

real. Not only are the police patrolling the roads, there's also a strong possibility they will have an accident, injuring or killing themselves and others in their vehicle. Worse yet, they could kill innocent people traveling on the same road.

The mission finally ends with a debrief. Panther flight determines if it met its objectives, what it did right, what it did wrong, how to do it better next time, and lessons learned ...

If the airmen adhered to preset contracts and did everything right, they have no "debrief" other than telling stories to their friends about how much fun they all had. If one of them made a bad decision, the "debrief" is extensive (if the airman is alive). It includes a police interrogation and report, a talk with the first sergeant after he or she picks the airman up from jail, a visit to the group and wing commanders' offices to explain the situation and trips to the legal office. The debrief finally ends in the commander's office with the loss of a rank, money, restrictions, extra duty, or any combination of those punishments.

The concept of a combat wingman is simple: look out for your buddies, even if they "aren't in your flight." In the fighter business, young pilots start as a wingmen. Their primary responsibility is to protect the flight lead.

Anyone can be a combat wingman in everyday life. All you have to do is look out for your friends and family and make sure they don't do something stupid. It's an easy concept that entails a great amount of responsibility, especially when you're the designated driver. In my mind that means "not one alcoholic drink."

Many bad situations could be averted and avoided with the use of a combat wingman. Just as the flight lead of the A-10s relied on his wingman to "cover his 6" and be an extra set of eyes for him, so should all military personnel while relaxing and having a little fun.

## Don't hide national pride

By 2nd Lt. Gerardo D. Gonzalez  
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Yesterday I saw something that really disturbed me. I was paying for some things at the BXtra, when I looked toward the entrance and saw a crowd of people, standing inside, facing outside.

After having served well over a decade in the Air Force, I knew what they were doing. I've seen it before many times. Yes, the crowd standing impatiently, some glancing at their watches, others with arms crossed, tapping their feet on the ground, was waiting for this eternal song to end. It was 4 o'clock and they were hiding from our national anthem.

Such incidents happen so frequently some of our young airmen believe this is how it's supposed to be. An airman I interviewed last week said he used to think the appropriate action to take if you were walking toward a building and retreat started playing was to hurry inside. So, he did the same. That is, until a sharp NCO saw him do this and corrected him. He felt embarrassed, but was glad for the NCO's intervention.

At my previous assignment, someone actually tried to keep me from walking outside as the anthem started to play. I shrugged him off, took a couple of steps forward from the exit, snapped to attention and saluted. Yesterday I did the same thing, I squeezed past the "spectators" at the

entrance, stepped outside and since I was in civilian attire, I assumed the position of attention and placed my right hand over my heart.

I realize the majority of people in the Air Force did not join out of purely patriotic reasons. Nevertheless, each and every person on base, whether active duty, civilian or retiree, whether in a good mood, bad mood, in uniform or out, should step out and pay the appropriate respect to our flag. Don't look at it as a chore or inconvenience and don't be embarrassed.

Use those few moments as a daily reminder of what the Air Force and the military is about — we are charged with protecting our country and our national interests. That's the business we're in, regardless of whether you joined only for college money or you see the Air Force as mere employment.

At a time when our military is at war, use this time to pay respect to our fallen and to all those deployed around the world, working in less than desirable locations, risking life and limb.

Next time you're walking out of a building and you hear music playing, don't stop! Step out and pay the appropriate respect. You'll be glad you did.

(Refer to AFMAN 36-2203, Drill and Ceremonies, or AFPAM 36-2241 Volume 1, Promotion Fitness Examination Study Guide, for customs and courtesies procedures)

# German 'Westwall' offers exciting look at local history

By Bernhard Schaefer  
52nd Fighter Wing Community Relations Office

The area around Spangdahlem Air Base has a lot of history, medieval castles and even Roman monuments. But, there are also other hidden monuments as well.

With Memorial Day approaching, history buffs might wonder where all the fighting of World War II took place.

Most people around here have heard of the scenic towns of Vianden, Echternach and Diekirch, but only a few people know the recent history of this region from about 60 years ago.

As a resident of this area, I can tell you the "Bulge" happened right next door. There is a big concrete and fortified bunker ruin on my land, with nearby trenches neatly dug, but overgrown now. I used to play there as a child, not really knowing what went on there years before. My parents told me to stay away because other people found ammunition and got hurt, or even killed.

To understand this area's recent history, it's important to keep in mind our proximity to the border of Luxembourg. It is and was a natural border. That's why before 1939 the Germans created the famous "Westwall." It was a defensive line, also called the "Siegfried Line," which ran along the



Bernhard Schaefer

People can see bunker ruins, such as the one above, on a guided walk of the German "Westwall." The walking circuit, which is nearly five miles, travels along former trenches and front-line stands from World War II.

natural border between Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg. The whole bunker line reaches from Aachen down to the French border for about 400 miles. The woods in that area are still full of bunkers, which the French tried to blow up after the war.

It was in the Sauer and Our valleys where, during the 'Battle of Bulge' campaign in winter of 1944 and 1945, secret raiders made several breakthroughs of the Siegfried Line. Elements of General George Patton's 3rd Army pushed the enemy back

to the initial jump-off point of the Westwall.

In early February 1945, units from the 80th U.S. Infantry Division crossed the Our River a few miles south from the site, piercing the Siegfried Line.

On May 11 and 12, people can take a walk along the famous Westwall. The walking track will take you nearly five miles along the German bunkers, three miles south of Vianden.

A narrative will explain the 10 bunker ruins, as well as one completely preserved crew bunker. It will describe the layout of the rooms and the purpose of the nearby forts. A variety of military equipment will be set up, as well as original military vehicles from both sides of the war, to give an insight to the conflict. People can also see photos from that time.

The walking circuit also goes along former trenches and front-line stands. While exploring the hillside, you can get a feeling of what happened here during World War II.

The walk is guided and costs 2.50 euro per person and includes one drink. Food and drinks are available along the track. The event starts May 11 at 10 a.m.

For more information about the walk, call 452-6434.

## Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. More synopsis information is available at [www.aafes.com/europe/eur-mov/snop.htm](http://www.aafes.com/europe/eur-mov/snop.htm).

### Bitburg Castle Today

**Showtime (PG-13)**  
Starring Robert DeNiro, Eddie Murphy and Rene Russo. When a no-nonsense LAPD detective is forced to star on a reality-based TV show with a frustrated actor-turned-LAPD patrolman, they find their lives turned upside down by a powerhouse producer and her very intrusive camera crew.

### Saturday

**E.T. (4 p.m., PG)**  
Starring Drew Barrymore. When a young boy, Elliott, finds E.T. and hides him in his home, both their worlds are changed forever. E.T. teaches Elliott and his two siblings, whose parents have recently separated, about caring and love while the children protect E.T. from the malevolent world of grown-ups. Elliott and E.T. become so close that they share emotions; as E.T. becomes ill, so does Elliott. The children end up going on a fabulous adventure trying to help E.T. find a way back to his home planet.

### Showtime

### Sunday

**Snow Dogs (4 p.m., PG)**  
Starring Cuba Gooding Jr. The world's greatest team of sled dogs - Diesel, Scooper, Nana, Yodel, Sniff, Mack, Duchess and Demon - are about to get a new owner: Miami dentist Ted Jones. When Ted finds out that he's been named in a will, he travels to Alaska thinking he's going to be rich, but his dreams of wealth turn to mush: he's been left the racing dogs, who have got it in for him.

### E.T.

### Closed Monday and Tuesday

### Wednesday

**I am Sam (PG-13)**  
Starring Sean Penn and Michelle Pfeiffer. Sam Dawson is a mentally-challenged father raising his daughter Lucy with the help of an extraordinary group of friends. As Lucy turns 7 and

begins to intellectually surpass her father, their close bond is threatened when their situation comes to the attention of a social worker who wants Lucy placed in foster care. Faced with a seemingly unwinnable case, Sam vows to fight the legal system and forms an unlikely alliance with Rita Harrison, a high-powered, self-absorbed attorney who takes his case pro bona as a challenge from her colleagues. Together they struggle to convince the system that Sam deserves to get his daughter back and, in the process, fuse a bond that results in a unique testament to the power of unconditional love.

### Thursday

### Collateral Damage (R)

Starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. Collateral Damage tells the story of family man and firefighter Gordon Brewer, who is plunged into the complex and dangerous world of international terrorism after he loses his wife and child in a bombing credited to Claudio "The Wolf" Perrini (Cliff Curtis). Frustrated with the official investigation and haunted by the thought that the man responsible for murdering his family might never be brought to justice, Brewer takes matters into his own hands and travels to Columbia to track down the terrorist. (Violence and some language.)

### May 10

### Blade 2 (R)

Starring Wesley Snipes. Exploding from the pages of Marvel Comics comes the follow-up to the blockbuster Blade. Blade is half-man and half-vampire and consumed by a desire to avenge the curse of his birth and save the human race from a blood-drenched Armageddon. In this newest adventure, Blade must align himself with a high-powered team of vampires to take on a greater evil than either has ever faced — a new kind of super-vampire that is itself on a vicious hunt to eradicate both races. (Strong pervasive violence, language, some drug use and sexual content.)

### May 11

### Blade 2

### May 12

### Rollerball (PG-13)

Starring LL Cool J and Rebecca Romijn-Stamos. A deadly sport that combines roller derby and basketball thrives in the year 2005 and packs arenas around the world. A global view-

ership bets and roots for the star players Jonathan Cross, Marcus Ridley and their beautiful teammate Aurora who skate and motorcycle past opponents to score. Despite the danger of the game, the real threat lies in the team owner Petrovich who sacrifices anything and anyone to maximize ratings, which are worth more to him than the final score. In a heroic move, Jonathan and his teammates attempt to expose the corruption and treachery. It is a risky play and the penalty is lethal. (Violence, extreme sports action, sensuality, language and some drug references.)

### Closed May 13-14

### Wednesday

### Super Troopers (R)

Starring Steve Lemme. Thorny, Rabbit, Mac and Foster are passable Vermont State Troopers. Stationed in the boonies on the Canadian border, they spend the bulk of their time playfully toying with speeders and taking impounded sports cars for spins on the open highway. When they're not on the road, they try to stay on the good side of their fatherly mentor, Captain O'Hagan, and avoid their tactless, thick-necked compatriot, Officer Rod Farva. All in all, they find their work to be pleasantly unchallenging. However, once the state targets their low volume station for a potential budget slash, the guys decide to buckle down to impress the higher ups. Things look bleak until, unexpectedly, the State Troopers' new "by the book" attitude uncovers a drug smuggling operation running across the border to Canada. Sensing salvation, the Troopers race the clock to crack the ring and save their jobs. But they aren't the only ones in the hunt. (Language, sexual content and drug use.)

### Thursday

### Big Fat Liar (PG)

Starring Frankie Muniz, Amanda Bynes and Paul Giamatti. Who's afraid of the big bad wolf? Not Jason Shepherd, who has to prove that a sleazy Hollywood producer Marty Wolf stole his class paper and turned into a blockbuster hit movie called Big Fat Liar. Traveling to Los Angeles with his best friend Kaylee, Jason tries to break into show business - literally. Through a hilarious series of pranks and ruses, Jason brings one of Hollywood's most powerful producer to his knees. (Some language)

### Spangdahlem Skyline Today

### Super Troopers

Blade 2, (10 p.m.)

### Saturday

### Blade 2

Rollerball (10 p.m., PG-13)

### Sunday

### Big Fat Liar (PG)

### Monday

### Rollerball

### Tuesday

### Blade 2

### Closed Wednesday and Thursday

### May 10

### The Rookie (G)

Starring Dennis Quaid. The Rookie tells the extraordinary real-life story of Jim Morris, who had to drop out of minor league baseball because of an injury to his pitching arm. Twelve years later, inspired by the young men on the championship-winning high school team he coaches, Morris is convinced to fulfill his own dream and try out for a professional team. With perseverance and confidence, he finally steps up to the plate, and after his pitching is clocked in the high nineties, he is signed to a minor league contract with the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, and soon after, moving onto his lifelong dream - the major leagues.

### John Q

### (10 p.m., PG-13)

Starring Denzel Washington, Robert Duvall and Anne Heche. John Q. Archibald is an ordinary man who works at a factory and takes care of his family. His wife Denise and young son Michael are his world. But when Michael falls seriously ill and needs an emergency heart transplant operation that John Q can't afford and his health insurance won't cover, he vows to do whatever it will take to keep his son alive. With time and options running out, a desperate gamble becomes his only hope - he takes the emergency room hostage. As John Q barricades himself inside the hospital along with his unwitting group of emergency room

hostages, many of them in need of medical care themselves, he faces off with a veteran police hostage negotiator and a quick-tempered police chief who wants to bring a swift end to the stand-off. (Violence, language and intense thematic elements.)

### May 11

### The Rookie

### Hart's War (10 p.m., R)

Starring Bruce Willis and Colin Farrell. In Hart's War, Lt. Tommy Hart is a second-year law student who is enlisted as an officer's aide in World War II due to his father's political pull. When he is captured and thrown into a German prisoner of war camp, top ranking Col. William McNamara assigns him to defend Lt. Lincoln Scott, a black POW accused of murdering a fellow white prisoner. Hart must struggle against his privileged past to prove that he is a true man of honor, worthy of his rank. In preparing a defense for his client, Tommy stumbles upon a plot that will force him to choose between his country, his own morality and his life. Based on a novel by John Katzenbach. (Some strong war violence and language.)

### May 12

### John Q

### May 13

### Queen of the Damned (R)

Starring Aaliyah. An adaptation of Anne Rice's best-selling novel (and third in the VAMPIRE CHRONICLES series), the supernatural adventure follows the legendary vampire Lestat, who reinvents himself as a rock star in the contemporary American music scene. His music wakes Akasha, the queen of all vampires, whose malevolent power is so great that all the immortal vampires must stand against her if they hope to survive. As Lestat's music inspires Akasha to make him her king, Jesse, a young woman with a fascination for the dark side, falls in love with Lestat.

### May 14

### The Rookie

### Closed May 15-16